

OPINION 1186

TANYSTROPHEUS H. VON MEYER, [1852] (REPTILIA)
CONSERVED

RULING.-(1) Under the plenary powers, the generic name *Macroscelosaurus* H. von Meyer, [1852], is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The generic name *Tanystropheus* H. von Meyer, [1852] (gender: masculine), type species, by monotypy, *Tanystropheus conspicuus* H. von Meyer, [1852], is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2129.

(3) The specific name *conspicuus* H. von Meyer, [1852], as published in the binomen *Tanystropheus conspicuus* (specific name of type species of *Tanystropheus* H. von Meyer, [1852]), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2756.

(4) The generic name *Macroscelosaurus* H. von Meyer, [1852], as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2118.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2084

An application for the suppression of the generic name *Macroscelosaurus* H. von Meyer, [1852], was first received from Dr Rupert Wild (*Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, BRD*) on 9 July 1974. It was sent to the printer on 19 November 1974 and published on 27 June 1975 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 32, pp. 124–126. Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials and to two herpetological serials. As a result of criticisms, a revised paper was published in vol. 33, pp. 124–126. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to ten general serials and two herpetological serials. The application was supported by Dr G.E. Gow (*University of Witwatersrand, RSA*). No adverse comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 5 September 1980 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1980) 23 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 33, p. 125. At the close of the voting period on 5 December 1980 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes — nineteen (19), received in the following order: Melville, Mroczkowski, Willink, Brinck, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin, Lehtinen, Hahn, Tortonese, Corliss, Habe, Ride, Welch, Alvarado, Sabrosky, Heppell, Halvorsen, Bayer, Nye

Negative Votes — Holthuis, Cogger

Dupuis abstained from voting. Vokes was on leave of absence. No votes were returned by Bernardi, Binder and Kraus.

The following comments were returned by members of the Commission with their voting papers:

Holthuis: 'Article 24a nowhere says that the two synonyms have to be considered valid by their author(s). Under this Article, *Macroscelosaurus* must be considered a junior objective synonym of *Tanystropheus*.'

Dupuis: 'Je m'abstiens, car je soupçonne qu'une recherche historique sérieuse concernant le nom *Macroscelosaurus* n'a été poursuivie ni par le demandeur (R. Wild) ni par les auteurs dont il cite une supposition en passant dans un Traité (Peyer in Kuhn-Schnyder) alors qu'un nom aussi long et compliqué ne peut pas être une pure invention de H. von Meyer.'

Cogger: 'The single treatment of *Macroscelosaurus* as an available name "with its original date and authorship" (Article 11d) is apparently that of Kuhn, 1934, but the applicant is unable to verify that Kuhn's attribution is correct, or that Münster's *Macroscelosaurus* was ever published prior to its citation in synonymy by H. von Meyer, 1852. Consequently *Macroscelosaurus* Münster, 1834 cannot be shown to have been published and is not available under either of the provisions of Article 11d. Further, the name *Macroscelosaurus* H. von Meyer, [1852] is not available under Article 11d, and its suppression using the plenary powers would not only seem to be unnecessary, but would leave the basic problem unresolved if any worker was to locate the "missing" reference to *Macroscelosaurus* Münster, 1834, which, having been used as an available name by Kuhn, would presumably become available as a senior synonym of *Tanystropheus* H. von Meyer, [1852]. Although I oppose only parts 5a and 5d of the application, it seems appropriate to vote against the application as a whole.'

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on Official Lists and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

conspicuus, *Tanystropheus*, H. von Meyer, [1852], *Zur Fauna der Vorwelt* (2), p. 42

Macroscelosaurus H. von Meyer, [1852], *Zur Fauna der Vorwelt* (2),
p. 42

Tanystropheus H. von Meyer, [1852], *Zur Fauna der Vorwelt* (2),
p. 42.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on voting paper (80)23 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1186.

R.V. MELVILLE

Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
London

21 January 1981